

MMA Testimony on SB 1135 (Allen)
House Commerce Committee
5/5/10

Good Morning Mr. Chair and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to speak on SB 1135.

Tool & Die and Mold industries are the heart Michigan's manufacturing sector. They make the parts that make the parts. It is one of Michigan's core competencies, one of the things that separate Michigan from other states. Tool & Die and Mold makers have specialized skills, that involves as much art as science and just good old know how.

Make no mistake, Michigan is a manufacturing state. Manufacturing is by far the largest sector of Michigan's economy, making up 21% of the GSP. That's nearly twice the size of the next sector, which is real estate at 11% and government at 10%.

This bill builds on the success of the current program. A total of 28 collaboratives have been formed and MMA has been involved in eight of them. MMA has a Tool & Die and Mold Committee that serves as a collaborative of the collaboratives to help share techniques for success between collaboratives.

As we begin to see a strengthening in the economy, we need to make sure we are doing everything we can to make sure Michigan retains its core competencies, so we can compete for new jobs and investment in Michigan. The Tool and Die and Mold industry will be an important part of that recovery.

As a point of information, this bill passed the senate unanimously.